

Congressman applauds relief efforts at Fort Benning as he urges constituents to work with the American Red Cross.

COLUMBUS, GEORGIA. As the toll of death and devastation continues to rise in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Congressman Sanford Bishop recognized the tremendous effort at Fort Benning, which is both deploying personnel to the affected regions as part of Joint Task Force Katrina and making room for displaced military personnel from Camp Shelby, MS and other locations. Currently six MEDIVAC helicopters have been deployed to the devastation zone in New Orleans and additional units are awaiting orders, building food and fuel supplies that will be critical to keeping rescue efforts alive.

“We need to be proud of our men and women serving at Fort Benning, who are volunteering in record numbers to join the relief effort,” said Congressman Bishop. “Their efforts are critical to coordinating and conducting one the biggest rescue efforts in our history and we will do whatever is in our power to support that mission.”

Officials at Fort Benning are also transporting displaced citizens from the affected regions to Red Cross shelters throughout the Columbus region, where individuals who want to help are being directed.

“The Red Cross is asking for monetary donations to provide relief for the affected regions and volunteers to support the shelters here in Columbus, Albany and Valdosta. I know that many in Southwest Georgia are looking for ways to help. The best way to help is to give to the Red Cross,” said Congressman Bishop.

Red Cross officials continue to advise that monetary donations are the best way to aid the relief effort. While gifts of clothes and food are appreciated, there is currently no way effectively to store and distribute these donations. For information on how to volunteer or make a donation, contact your local Red Cross chapter listed below.

“Here in Southwest Georgia, we have been on the receiving end of our nation’s generosity and outpouring of support in the wake of disaster,” said Congressman Bishop. “Now it is our turn to be good neighbors and good citizens. It is our turn to aid those in need and to show mercy on those who have lost so much. Please give what you can. Lives are depending on it.”

ALBANY

American Red Cross
Southwest Georgia Chapter
500 Pine Ave
Albany, GA 31701
Phone: 229-436-4845
E-mail: arcalbany@isoa.net
Web site: <http://home.isoa.net/~arcalbany/>

COLUMBUS:

American Red Cross

West Central Georgia Chapter
3940 Rosemont Dr
Columbus, GA 31904-5626
Phone: 706-323-5614
E-mail: wcgredcross@wcgredcross.org
Web site: <http://www.wcgredcross.org>

VALDOSTA
American Red Cross
Valdosta Chapter
527 N. Patterson Street, Second Floor
Valdosta, GA 31601
Phone: 229-242-7404
E-mail: vredcross@bellsouth.net
Web site: <http://www.valdostaredcross.org>